

**Tausek, Michael J**

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**From:** Robert Gross [rcgjail@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2012 10:24 AM  
**To:** Tausek, Michael J  
**Subject:** Letter

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## Washington County Sheriff's Office

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April 13, 2012

Board of Corrections  
Michael Tausek, Executive Director  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Marquardt Building  
32 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Mr. Tausek:

Washington County has grave concerns regarding the 1% cut in the corrections budget and zero increases for 2013. The decrease, though difficult, may be manageable. It is the juxtaposition of rising costs and a zero increase in 2013 that has us frightened. The shortfall of approximately \$188,000 in 2013 means a decrease in the inmate population as we will be unable to sustain the staffing necessary to provide a safe environment for inmates. Transportation costs will rise because the additional inmates once housed in Washington County will have to be moved to other facilities in the system. The flagship facilities, at the last BOC meeting, stated they have no more room for additional inmates.

Each correctional facility in the system is likely to experience similar consequences of the shortfalls. According to the *Bangor Daily News* of April 12, 2012, Androscoggin County is eliminating all their educational programming in order to meet the mandated reduction.

Washington County fears such extreme measures will have to be implemented here as well. It is an additional concern that corrections procedures and programs will revert to the "old ways" of just housing inmates.

On July 1, 2012, Washington County will be forced to eliminate security positions and transport inmates to other facilities. We cannot depend on a supplemental budget that has yet to be discussed.

4/17/2012